

**GALERIE LEONARD & BINA ELLEN**  
**PROGRAMMING AND ACTIVITIES**  
**2009-2010**

Exhibitions  
Openings  
Publications  
Launches  
Conferences  
Round tables  
Projections



**1 SEPTEMBER - 10 OCTOBER 2009**

Presented as part of Le Mois de la Photo à Montréal

**HADJITHOMAS + JOREIGE. I'M THERE EVEN IF YOU DON'T SEE ME**

Curated by Michèle Thériault

Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige belong to a generation of artists, filmmakers, writers and intellectuals who have contributed to the rebirth of artistic culture in Beirut after 15 years of civil wars in a country that is still subject to profound instability.

Latency is one of the concerns that informs their practice, whether it be their films, videos, photographs, or indeed the texts and narratives they write. It suggests what cannot be fully present, restored, recovered or known, as if something is lying dormant and can potentially be awakened; it is the reminiscence of an image, of knowledge that is difficult to grasp. It also implies a quest, a continual search in which both artists and viewers participate. The works in this exhibition represent this quest's beginning, its process and its materialization.

This notion of latency is informed by Lebanon's recent History, its violence and destructiveness and the infinite complexity of its conflicts and their consequences. Hadjithomas and Joreige do not attempt to write that History, but rather to resist its totalizing forces by sounding its hidden, ignored, forgotten, secret or unclassifiable aspects so as to question it and explore "what divides the world today."

The diverse modes of presentation and representation of the image in their work is based on the use of the document (archival, popular or family) and fiction that does not place them in opposition to each other but rather examines their capacity to generate a discourse that questions the image by blurring their boundaries. This encounter sharpens the viewer's vision and mind.

**PUBLICATION : *The Spaces of the Image***

Produced by the MPM, edited by Gaëlle Morel

**Complementary activities:**

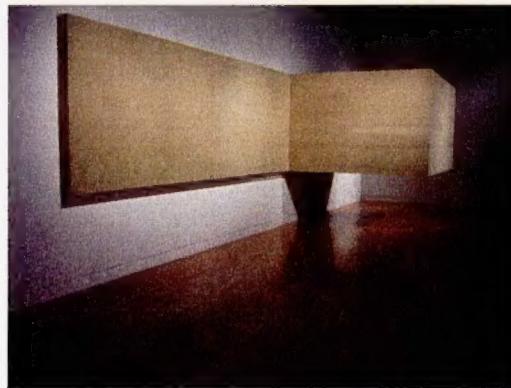
**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 11**

**- ARTIST TALK at 4 PM**

**- LIVE BROADCAST FROM THE GALLERY on the program *LE 4 À 6*, CIBL RADIO**

Group tours

Guided tours



**24 OCTOBER - 12 DÉCEMBER 2009**

**OFF THE WALL**

**Barry Allikas, Neil Campbell, Alexandre David, Betty Goodwin, Wanda Koop,  
Louise Lawler, Michael Merrill, Guy Pellerin, Claude Tousignant**

A project by **Pierre Dorion**

In this exhibition the painter Pierre Dorion examines the relationship between the artist and the wall as a flat, pictorial or sculptural surface or, rather, as a conceptual reference, a site for questioning, or as material that informs the imaginary. Invited artists invest the walls of the gallery by intervening directly on them either pictorially, as is the case with Neil Campbell, Louise Lawler, Barry Allikas and Wanda Koop or sculpturally by developing an ensemble that projects into space, in the case of Alexandre David. A monochrome by Claude Tousignant hovers between the two categories. Another artist, Michael Merrill, graphically deconstructs the gallery's space in a series of drawings while Guy Pellerin deploys his pictorial intervention in an area where the public space of the atrium meets the white cube of the gallery. Documentary photographs by Gabor Szilasi depict Betty Goodwin's Mentana Street Project of 1979, in which she transformed an apartment by marking its wall surfaces and creating a structure of corridors. Through and beyond these various manners of working off the wall various issues arise concerning the representation of the exhibition site and its context, the residual presence of both abstract painting and Minimalism, a particular history of painting and of installation in Montreal, and, indeed, a global political consciousness.

**Complementary activities:**

**CURATOR'S TOUR**

Tuesday November 10, 12:30-1:30

Conversation between Pierre Dorion and Michèle Thériault, Director of the Ellen Art Gallery.

**MEET THE ARTISTS**

Tuesday October 20, 12:30 NEIL CAMPBELL

Thursday November 12, 12:30 MICHAEL MERRILL

Thursday November 19, 12:30 ALEXANDRE DAVID

Thursday December 3, 12:30 BARRY ALLIKAS

Thursday December 10, 12:30 GUY PELLERIN

Group tours

Guided tours

2010



JANUARY 9 – FEBRUARY 13, 2010

**COLLECTION 3. Collecting. The Inflections of a Practice**

Curated by Mélanie Rainville

The Ellen Art Gallery's collection is nearly 50 years old. Its history has been shaped by acquisition, conservation, documentation and dissemination practices that have evolved over the years. The works grouped together in this exhibition illustrate a combination of factors that have influenced collecting practices over the years, sometimes to the point of altering them significantly. These include shifts in the art world, new legislations, the professionalization of various museological practices, as well as the succession of directors and curators responsible for developing the collection. Ultimately it also includes the material resources made available to the Gallery during its history.

These factors transformed practices related to acquisitions, but they especially modified the contexts in which the collection was developed and conserved. Drawing parallels between these factors and the bodies of work exhibited raises an issue inherent to the collection: the changing contexts and practices of collecting generate various ruptures in the collection's consistency.

This exhibition leads us to reflect upon the shifts that have accompanied the work of the curators who have been responsible for developing the collection. It looks into the effects of its progressive development and, more specifically, into the effects of diverse collecting, conservation, documentation and dissemination practices on the collection as it exists today.

**PUBLICATION :**

**COLLECTION 3. Collecting. The Inflections of a Practice**

In French and English.

Design : Uniform

January 2010, Galerie Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery

Essay by Mélanie Rainville

10 pages

ISBN 978-2-920394-83-4

Free



**Complementary activities:**

**TOUR OF THE EXHIBITION**

Thursday January 14, 1 PM (in English)

with Mélanie Rainville, Max Stern Curator of the permanent collection, and Michèle Thériault, Director of the Gallery.

**TOUR OF THE VAULT**

Wednesday January 27, 2-3PM (in French)

Tuesday February 2, 2-3PM (in English)

Thursday February 11, 2-3PM (in English)

avec Mélanie Rainville, Conservatrice Max Stern de la collection permanente. Réservation nécessaire.

**FILM SCREENING**

*Herb & Dorothy*

Saturday January 30, 6PM

Megumi Sasaki's award-winning documentary *Herb & Dorothy* (2008) tells the extraordinary story of Herbert Vogel, a postal clerk, and Dorothy Vogel, a librarian, who managed to build one of the most important contemporary art collections with very modest means.

In English with French subtitles. Running time: 89 minutes.

FREE

At the de Sève Cinema, 1400 de Maisonneuve West, LB-125 (Ground floor).

**LUNCHTIME TALK**

Wednesday February 3rd, 12:30-1:30 PM (In French)

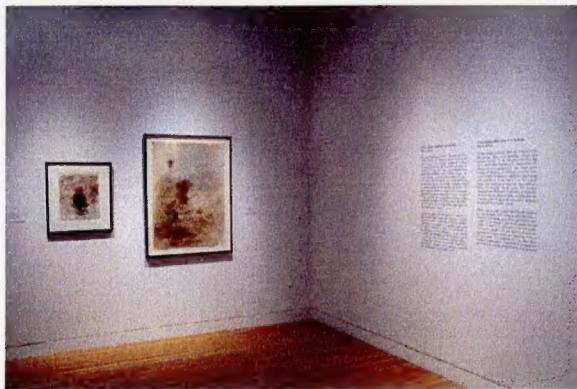
Talk by Francine Couture, Professor in the Department of Art History at UQAM and Suzanne Lemire, Adjunct Professor at l'École des arts visuels et médiatiques de l'UQAM.

**Artistic coming of age in the 1960s: from marginality to institutional recognition**

During the 1960s, the State's intervention in arts and culture transformed artistic practice with the Quebec government's creation of the Ministère des affaires culturelles and the Musée d'art contemporain. A new image of the modern artist also appeared, emerging from the fringes to take on a social and professional identity. This lecture will illustrate how the new environment changed the way artists were taught in the province's various educational institutions, including the École des beaux-arts de Montréal and Sir George Williams University.

Group tours

Guided tours



**JANUARY 9 – FEBRUARY 13, 2010**  
**CAPSULE 3. SYLVIA SAFDIE seen by SHERRY SIMON**  
**Curator: Mélanie Rainville**

Sherry Simon, professor in the Department of French Studies at Concordia and a specialist in translation studies, examines from an oblique point of view, two works by Sylvia Safdie. Simon's text is published in an accompanying exhibition brochure, available at the Gallery.

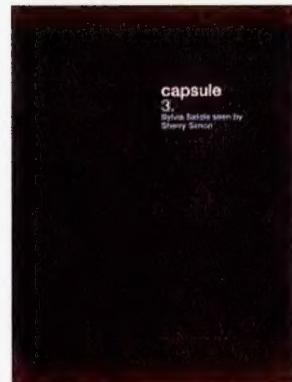
*CAPSULE is an exhibition program that invites a writer from a discipline outside of the visual arts and art history to select a work from the Gallery's Permanent Collection as a departure point for a consideration of art and issues.*

**PUBLICATION :**  
**CAPSULE 3 Sylvia Safdie seen by Sherry Simon**

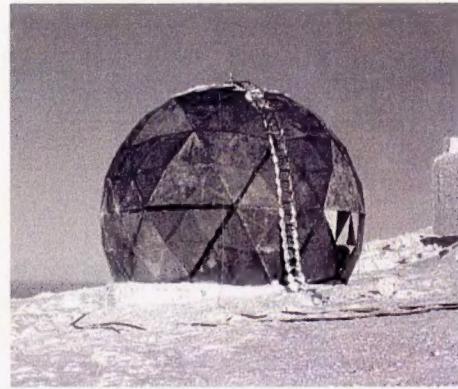
In French and English.

Design : Uniform

January 2010, Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery  
Essay by Sherry Simon  
6 pages  
ISBN 978-2-920394-82-7  
Free



Group tours  
Guided tours



25 FEBRUARY – 17 APRIL 2010

**MAGNETIC NORTHS**

A project by Charles Stankievech

**ART + DOCUMENTS :** LANCE BLOMGREN, CENTER FOR LAND USE INTERPRETATION

THOMAS EDISON, R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER, GLENN GOULD, LAURENT GRASSO

GERARDUS MERCATOR, EMILY MIRANDA, N.E. THING CO., DAVID NEUFELD

R. MURRAY SCHAFER, KEVIN SCHMIDT, MICHAEL SNOW, CHARLES STANKIEVECH

TR'ONDËK HWËCH'IN FIRST NATION, US AIR FORCE / GENERAL ELECTRIC

LAWRENCE WEINER, JOYCE WIELAND

**AUDIO :** AKUFEN, BLACK CAT SYSTEMS, TIM HECKER, ALVIN LUCIER, MICHAEL SNOW

US AIR FORCE, LAWRENCE WEINER + WILLIAM FURLONG, OSWALD WIENER + HELMUT

SCHOENER

**FILM :** ZACHARIAS KUNUK + NORMAN COHN, PETER METTLER, MICHAEL SNOW

DOUGLAS WILKINSON / ONF-NFB

From afar, the shifting phenomenon of magnetic north provides guidance not unlike Polaris, but as one draws close to the shadowy realm of the Arctic, navigation and communication begin to go awry, forcing the nomad to experiment within a no-man's land. Military and religious colonization, hazardous testing, and a disregard for a fragile ecosystem mark the past of the Arctic, but so do inventive and sensitive histories. Within the White Cube of the gallery — here posited as a substitute for the minimalist landscape of the Arctic Sublime — the exhibition takes as its starting point Mercator's imaginative speculation of dual magnetic north poles from 1595, and ends with recent geomagnetic renderings by an indigenous government. Between these visual landmarks, a constellation of documents, photographs, sculptures, radio broadcasts, film screenings and installations weave together the overlapping territories of utilitarian artifacts and conceptual artwork. The survey of work starts with techno/military enterprises such as those of Thomas Edison, R. Buckminster Fuller, Canada's NFB, and the US Air Force; revisits conceptual art from the 1960s and '70s by Glenn Gould, N.E. Thing Co., Lawrence Weiner, Michael Snow, Joyce Wieland and others; and includes a selection of contemporary artists whose work combines both axes. Far from being an empty *terra incognita*, the Arctic, and like it, *Magnetic Norths*, functions both as a historical repository and as a fantasy projection space that generates electro-magnetic distortions, pay dirt, pissing contests, sci-fi warfare, psychedelic skies, conspiracy theories, critical confections, shamanistic loss and shattered cartographies.

**PUBLICATION :**

***Magnetic Norths - a constellation of concepts to navigate the exhibition***

French and English versions.

Design : 1218A

February 2010, Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery

Essay by Charles Stankievech

Brochure / poster, 13 pages

ISBN 978-2-920384-84

Free

Aurora Borealis Boundaries CBC  
Conceptual Art, Document, Fieldwork  
Geodesic, Radome, Hothian Warfare  
Landscape, Mapping, National Film  
Board (NFB), No Man's / Nomad' Land  
Outer Space, Radio, Shamanism,  
Sovereignty, Warm War.



Group tours

Guided tours

**Complementary activities:**

**CURATOR'S TOUR OF THE EXHIBITION**

Saturday February 27, 2 PM

Tour of *Magnetic Norths* with artist and curator Charles Stankievech

At the Gallery

In English

**SCREENINGS**

Sunday March 7, 2PM, Goethe-Institut, 418 Sherbrooke E

*La Région Centrale*, 1971

A film by Michael Snow

180 min, 16 mm (no dialogue)

Free

Sunday March 14, 2PM, at the de Sève Cinema, 1400 de Maisonneuve West, LB-125

*Picture of Light*, 1994

A film by Peter Mettler

Original score: Jim O'Rourke

Colour, Super 16 mm blow-up and 35 mm, 83 min (original English version)

This screening was presented in collaboration with the FOFA Gallery and AKVK *Ghost Acoustics*.

Wednesday March 31, 7 PM, at the Goethe-Institut, 418 Sherbrooke E

*How to Build an Igloo*, 1949.

A film by Douglas Wilkinson

Colour, 16 mm transferred to video, 10 min. 27 s

+

*The Journals of Knud Rasmussen*, 2006

A film by Zacharias Kunuk and Norman Cohn

112 min, digital beta (in Inuktitut with English subtitles)

## ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:

### JOYCE WIELAND AND THE NORTH: CONVERSATION BETWEEN KRISTY A. HOLMES AND JOHANNE SLOAN

Thursday April 8, 5 PM at the Gallery

Kristy Holmes and Johanne Sloan discuss Joyce Wieland's figuration of "the north" throughout her artistic and filmic production of the 1960s and 70s. This conversation will touch on questions of gender, ecology, and politics, as well as the artist's treatment of aboriginality.

In English. Followed by a reception.

**Kristy A. Holmes** is Assistant Professor of Art History at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Her research includes the works of art and films of Canadian artist and filmmaker Joyce Wieland from the late 1960s and early 1970s as well as modern and contemporary feminist artistic production and visual culture in Canada. She has published in the Canadian Journal of Film Studies and the anthology, *The Sixties: Passion, Politics, and Style*. In 2009, Holmes held a research fellowship in Canadian Art at the National Gallery of Canada.

**Johanne Sloan** is an Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director in the Department of Art History at Concordia University in Montreal, Québec. Her research and teaching often concern Canadian art and visual culture from the 1960s until the present day. Her books *Joyce Wieland's The Far Shore* as well as *Expo 67: Not Just a Souvenir*, a book of essays co-edited by Sloan and Rhona Richman Kenneally, will both be published later this year by the University of Toronto Press.



5 MAY – 12 JUNE

### IGNITION

Projects selected by Rebecca Duclos and Michèle Thériault

AMÉLIE BRISSON-DARVEAU, GWYNNE FULTON, ZOHAR KFIR, NIKI MULDER

TARA NICHOLSON, SABRINA RUSSO, MARIGOLD SANTOS

The Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery is pleased to present **IGNITION**, an annual exhibition that features new work by students completing their Master of Fine Arts degree in Concordia University's Studio Arts program. This exhibition provides an up-and-coming generation of artists with a unique opportunity to present ambitious, interdisciplinary works in the professional context of a gallery with a national and international profile. This year, **IGNITION** features seven artists whose practices include photography, video, installation, drawing, and sculpture.

**Complementary activities:**

**MEET THE ARTISTS**

Friday May 28 at 4:30 PM, Niki Mulder  
Saturday May 29 at 4:30 PM, Zohar Kfir  
Sunday May 30 at 4:30 PM, Gwynne Fulton  
Tuesday June 1 at 4:30 PM, Sabrina Russo  
Thursday June 3 at 4:30 PM, Marigold Santos

Group tours  
Guided tours

**GALLERY CLOSED from JUNE 14 – AUGUST 31**

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**OTHER ACTIVITIES AND OFF-SITE EVENTS**

**PUBLICATION LAUNCH**

*DOCUMENTARY PROTOCOLS (1967-1975)*

Saturday February 13, 4-6pm  
At the Gallery

*Documentary Protocols (1967-1975)* is the third part of an ambitious project that took place over a three-year period, and that also included two exhibitions (*Documentary Protocols I* and *Documentary Protocols II*) curated and presented at the Gallery in 2007 and 2008. This major historical publication reproduces over 250 documents from the 1960s and 70s drawn from 10 archival fonds and includes an introduction, a contextualizing essay and 6 case studies.

Launch price: \$25

Edited by: Vincent Bonin in collaboration with Michèle Thériault

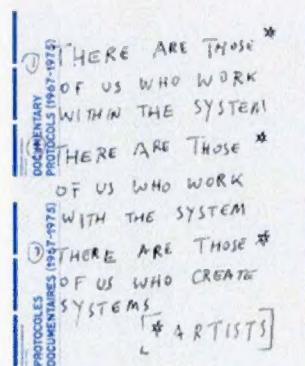
Design: Feed

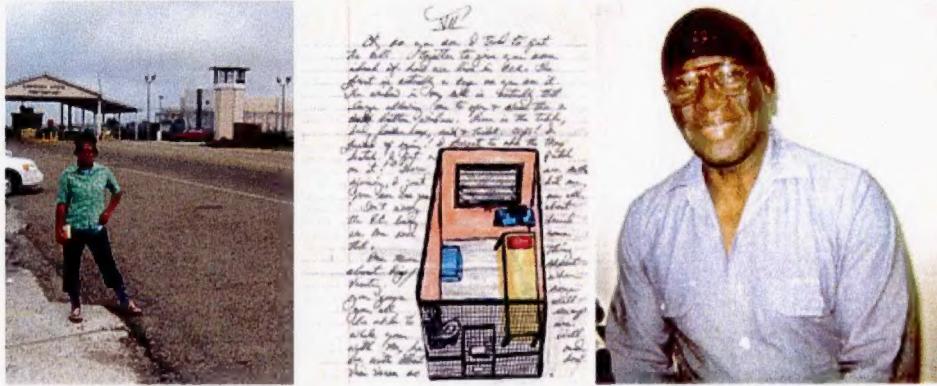
Documents: Art Workers' Coalition, N.E. Thing Co., Joyce Wieland, Intermedia Society, A Space, Véhicule Art (Montréal) Inc., General Idea / Art Metropole, Image Bank, Western Front Society, Glenn Lewis, Michael Goldberg, Vidéographe

Introduction in French and English: Michèle Thériault

Texts in English by: Vincent Bonin, Anne Bénichou, Marion Froger, Kristy A. Holmes, Primary Information, Felicity Tayler and David Tomas. Texts in French by: V. Bonin, A. Bénichou and M. Froger.

February 2010, Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery  
416 pp., b&w illustrations  
\$40.00 (sewn perfect binding)  
ISBN 978-2-920394-81-0





### LECTURE BY JACKIE SUMELL

Wednesday February 10, 6 PM at the Goethe-Institut, 418 Sherbrooke E  
Free

For over thirty-six years Black Panther Herman Joshua Wallace has been in solitary confinement in the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola. Solitary confinement, or Closed Cell Restriction [CCR] at Angola consists of spending a minimum of 23 hours a day in a six-foot by nine-foot cell. In 2003 the activist/artist Jackie Sumell asked Herman a very simple question: "What kind of house does a man who has lived in a 6-foot by 9-foot box for over 30 years dream of?" The answer to this question is a remarkable art project rooted in social sculpture and community building entitled *The House That Herman Built*.

Presented in collaboration with PREFIX INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART, Toronto and as part of Black History Month. This event is made possible with the support of the Frederick and Mary Kay Lowy Art Education Fund.

### CONVERSATION:

FRANÇOIS LEMIEUX, *We left the warm stable and entered the latex void*  
MICHAEL POHL, ARTIST IN RÉSIDENCE – WLTWSAETLV. At the Gallery

**WE LEFT THE WARM STABLE AND ENTERED THE LATEX VOID** (WLTWSAETLV) is a cooperatively organized artist residency, lecture series and project space located in François Lemieux's Montréal apartment. It is run collaboratively by exhibiting artists and WLTWSAETLV. It presents talks, interviews and workshops through which a multiplicity of independent practices are launched into discursive motion. WLTWSAETLV has no program, nor does it have a board of directors or state funding to finance its operations. Its activities question current conditions of visual arts production and presentation in Québec. WLTWSAETLV has a predetermined lifespan of 20 months, after which it will cease its activities. For additional information: [www.wltwsaetlv.org](http://www.wltwsaetlv.org)

Since 2006, François Lemieux has developed an art practice that makes reference to art, architecture, and design. His work explores and questions the economy as well as the relationships that exist between objects, the means of their production, and the circumstances of their exhibition and reception. Lemieux lives and works in Montréal.

François Lemieux will present WLTWSAETLV and the WLTWSAETLV residency program in French. Michael Pohl completed his studies at the *Kunstakademie Münster* in 2009, under professors Maik and Dirk Löbbert. Since 2006, Pohl has operated a number of independent exhibition spaces including CLUB69, an independent artist initiative located in his Münster apartment. His work as an artist and as an exhibition organizer offers ironic commentary on the ways in which art is produced and presented. Michael Pohl currently lives and works in Münster, Germany. For additional information: [www.michaelpohl.de](http://www.michaelpohl.de)



## CHARLES GAGNON: 4 FILMS

### BOXED SET LAUNCH

Thursday March 25, 8:30 PM

At the Gallery

The launch follows the screening of *R69 [unfinished/inachevé]*, presented at FIFA - International Festival of Films on Art, in conjunction with *Panorama of Quebec and Canada Video*, curated by Nicole Gingras. The screening is at 6:30 PM in the J.A. de Sève Cinema at Concordia University.

#### Charles Gagnon: 4 Films

(DVD + publication)

- *The Eighth Day/Le Huitième jour* (1967)
- *The Sound of Space/Le Son d'un espace* (1968)
- *Pierre Mercure 1927-1966* (1970)
- *R69 [unfinished/inachevé]* (1969-)

Soundtracks: Raymond Gervais, Mary Stephen

- Publication edited by Monika Kin Gagnon with texts by Monika Kin Gagnon and Mary Stephen in English, and by Raymond Gervais in French.

#### LAUNCH PRICE: \$25

**Charles Gagnon: 4 Films** unites the 1960s experimental films of renowned multidisciplinary artist Charles Gagnon and highlights the intersection between film, painting, photography and music in his artistic œuvre. *4 Films* resonates with the countercultural consciousness of the 1960s and is exemplary of avant-garde experimental collage and structuralist filmmaking aesthetics. Accompanied by an illustrated catalogue of film descriptions, essays and interviews, this collection illuminates Gagnon's artistic career, and Québec and Canada's art scene of the 1960s.

**Charles Gagnon** was born in Montréal Québec in 1934, where he lived until his death in 2003. Gagnon exhibited his paintings and photography extensively throughout his lifetime in individual and group exhibitions. He was the subject of two retrospectives of his work: the first at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts in 1978, which toured Canada, and the second, at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal in 2001, which included his three completed films. His works are in major museum and private collections nationally and internationally. He was the recipient of numerous awards and prizes, including the Ordre du Québec in 1991 and the Prix Borduas in 1995. He received an Honorary Doctorate from l'Université de Montréal in 1991, and a Governor General's Award in the Visual and Media Arts in 2002.

**Monika Kin Gagnon** has published widely on art, cultural politics and media since the 1980s, and teaches in Communication Studies at Concordia University. She is the author of *Other Conundrums: Race, Culture and Canadian Art* (2000) and with Toronto video artist, Richard Fung and eleven artists, *13 Conversations about Art and Cultural Race Politics* (2002).

**EVENTS HELD AS PART OF  
CONGRESS OF THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES 2010**

**CONFERENCE**

*WAGING CULTURE*

Monday May 31, 6PM (in English)

Michael Maranda, assistant curator at the Art Gallery of York University, discusses the recently completed the *WAGING CULTURE* survey, the most comprehensive study of the socio-economic status of visual artists in Canada since Statistics Canada's 1993 *Cultural Labour Force Survey*.

**RECEPTION + PERFORMANCE**

Wednesday June 2, 5 - 7 PM

Performance by Women With Kitchen Appliances (WWKA), 6 PM.

**MEET THE ARTISTS FROM IGNITION**

Friday May 28 at 4:30 PM, Niki Mulder

Saturday May 29 at 4:30 PM, Zohar Kfir

Sunday May 30 at 4:30 PM, Gwynne Fulton

Tuesday June 1 at 4:30 PM, Sabrina Russo

Thursday June 3 at 4:30 PM, Marigold Santos